

# The Art of War

by Sun Tzu

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A printable to-do list of the most effective habits from this book. Check one off each day you do it.

MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT SUN

<sup>01</sup> **Run a weekly five-factor brief before major decisions**

Score moral alignment, timing, terrain, command clarity, and discipline from 0-100. Refuse to escalate when more than two factors are weak.

MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT SUN

<sup>02</sup> **Write a one-page intelligence memo before any negotiation**

Document counterpart incentives, constraints, alternatives, and timing pressure. Walk in with hypotheses, not guesses.

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<sup>03</sup> **Design one indirect path to your objective**

Instead of forcing a frontal win, change incentives, sequence allies, or alter framing so resistance weakens before confrontation.

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<sup>04</sup> **Choose your battlefield, then set tempo**

Schedule decisive conversations in environments where you control pace, agenda, and preparation quality. Location and timing are leverage.

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<sup>05</sup> **Red-team your own plan for blind spots**

Have someone challenge assumptions, logistics, and second-order effects. Better to lose the rehearsal than the campaign.

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<sup>06</sup> **Define clear no-fight triggers**

List conditions that make engagement irrational: weak information, low alignment, unclear objective, or no exit path. Treat this list as doctrine.